



That was the day she resigned. She had too much work to do at school now to keep on working here. Plus, she was feeling steadier. The restaurant had been Good for Her in all the ways it needed to be, and she could move on. She could cook better dinners for her father at home, with all her new experience. She could have dinner parties for his friends.

470 It shocked her how Johnny responded to the news of her departure. He shook his head and said, “No, no, no, baby,” as if she were a little dog at his feet. **N**

“What do you mean, no no no? Yes yes yes! I have homework piling up on me. I have a major paper to do that I haven’t even started! My dad and I haven’t even cleaned our house since my mom died. I’ll miss this place terribly, but hey, I’ll still come in and eat! And maybe you’ll go to another movie someday and let me tag along, what do you say?”

Johnny stared at her. He’d been making Shoofly Pie on his own lately—good thing, because everyone still ordered it. Riyadh and his wife presented Mattie with a mixed bunch of happy-looking flowers and a card: “This is your
480 home now, too!!! We love and appreciate you—free lunch any time!” Johnny kissed her, first time ever, on the top of her right ear. Her mother used to kiss her there. **Q**

N STATIC AND DYNAMIC CHARACTERS

Dynamic characters undergo some sort of change as a story unfolds. In what ways has Johnny changed over the course of the story? Cite specific words or details to show this change.